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*Admitted only in Maryland
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Federal Agencies

September 10, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1743

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/648,264; Filed: August 27, 2003
For: **Materials for Enhancing Staining of Biopolymers in Matrices**
Inventor: Scott WHITNEY
Our Ref: 0942.5190002/RWE/CJW

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
4. PTO Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$1,112.00 for:
\$950.00 for the three month Extension of Time fee; and
\$162.00 for the excess claim fee; and
5. One return postcard.

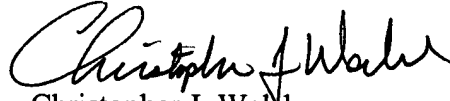
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
September 10, 2004
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Christopher J. Walsh
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RWE/CJW/eaf
Enclosures

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